

Special Needs Housing

FUNCTION

The mission of Special Needs Housing (SNH) is to provide oversight and leadership to the County's efforts to develop new and innovative housing models to serve special needs and homeless populations and maintain housing stability for vulnerable households. SNH is responsible for collaborating with public and private agencies to develop and implement strategies, to address the County's plan to remedy and prevent homelessness, and increase the development of supportive, accessible, and affordable housing for special needs populations. Special needs populations include homeless individuals and families, persons with mental health and substance abuse issues, individuals with developmental disabilities, transitioning youth, and seniors with disabilities.

PROGRAM CONTACTS

Contact Nadim Khan of the HHS - Special Needs Housing at 240.777.1179 or Trudy-Ann Durace of the Office of Management and Budget at 240.777.2778 for more information regarding this service area's operating budget.

PROGRAM DESCRIPTIONS

Rental & Energy Assistance Program

The Maryland Energy Assistance Program (MEAP) and Electric Universal Services Program (EUSP) provide financial assistance for eligible low-income households to pay home heating and energy costs. The Rental Assistance and Handicapped Rental Assistance Programs provide subsidies to low-income renters, handicapped persons, and families with dependent children.

The Housing Initiative Program (formally Supportive Housing Rental Assistance Program (SHRAP) provides housing and service coordination to special needs families/individuals and also provides funding for the Partnership for Permanent Housing (PPH) program.

Program Performance Measures	Actual FY08	Actual FY09	Estimated FY10	Target FY11	Target FY12
Average number of households receiving a rental subsidy each month ¹	1,668	1,727	1,767	1,100	1,100

¹ Beginning in FY10, all rental subsidy funds are budgeted in DHCA, except for \$600,000, which remains in the DHHS budget for \$200/month Rental Assistance Program subsidy. For FY11 and FY12, the reduction in the Housing First program will impact the number of households receiving a rental subsidy.

FY11 Recommended Changes	Expenditures	WYs
FY10 Approved	5,286,210	12.5
Increase Cost: Increase Reimbursement Rate to the County Energy Rebate Program to Reflect Energy Tax Rate Increase	129,500	0.0
Miscellaneous adjustments, including furloughs, employee benefit changes, changes due to staff turnover, reorganizations, and other budget changes affecting more than one program	-370,970	-1.1
FY11 CE Recommended	5,044,740	11.4

Notes: Miscellaneous adjustment includes the shift of 1.0 workyear to Housing Stabilization Services and the shift of a contract to Permanent Supportive Housing Services.

Shelter Services

Shelter Services coordinates and provides shelter services to homeless families and single adults on a seasonal and emergency basis with the goal of placing individuals and families in stable, permanent housing as rapidly as possible. Shelter Services include community outreach, emergency shelter placement, a comprehensive needs assessments, and case management.

Program Performance Measures	Actual FY08	Actual FY09	Estimated FY10	Target FY11	Target FY12
Average length of stay by homeless families in emergency shelter ¹	93	89	75	75	75
Number of families placed in emergency shelters	141	148	165	165	165

¹ Under the Housing First Initiative, the goal is to have families in a shelter for a maximum of 30 days. Due to the large number of families with housing needs, the Department does not believe that goal is attainable in the next few years.

FY11 Recommended Changes	Expenditures	WYs
FY10 Approved	5,996,690	2.8

	Expenditures	WYs
Increase Cost: SuperNofa - Samaritan Initiative	34,000	0.0
Reduce: Homeless Outreach Services Without Reducing Shelter Beds or Emergency Assistance	-367,540	0.0
Miscellaneous adjustments, including furloughs, employee benefit changes, changes due to staff turnover, reorganizations, and other budget changes affecting more than one program	-194,980	-0.2
FY11 CE Recommended	5,468,170	2.6

Permanent Supportive Housing Services

Permanent Supportive Housing Services was previously titled Supportive Housing Services. This program provides housing for families with children and persons with mental disabilities. On-site case management is provided to assist persons receiving services to become self sufficient.

Program Performance Measures	Actual FY08	Actual FY09	Estimated FY10	Target FY11	Target FY12
Percentage of households remaining housed at least 12 months after placement in permanent supportive housing	94	99.5	95	95	95

FY11 Recommended Changes	Expenditures	WYs
FY10 Approved	1,747,830	9.6
Miscellaneous adjustments, including furloughs, employee benefit changes, changes due to staff turnover, reorganizations, and other budget changes affecting more than one program	300,130	-0.3
FY11 CE Recommended	2,047,960	9.3

Notes: Miscellaneous adjustment includes the shift of a contract from the Rental and Energy Assistance Program.

Housing Stabilization Services

Housing Stabilization Services provides intake and assessment for County households who are experiencing a housing-related emergency. The program's focus is on crisis intervention and prevention. State and County grants are provided to prevent evictions and utility cut offs, as well as burial assistance. Additionally, referrals are made for Temporary Cash Assistance (TCA). Case management services are provided to help at risk households develop and implement plans to prevent future housing crisis.

Program Performance Measures	Actual FY08	Actual FY09	Estimated FY10	Target FY11	Target FY12
Percentage of households that received emergency financial assistance that sought additional assistance within 12 months	NA	21	21	21	21

FY11 Recommended Changes	Expenditures	WYs
FY10 Approved	4,712,700	29.5
Miscellaneous adjustments, including furloughs, employee benefit changes, changes due to staff turnover, reorganizations, and other budget changes affecting more than one program	115,900	-0.2
FY11 CE Recommended	4,828,600	29.3

Notes: Miscellaneous adjustment includes the shift of 1.0 workyear from the Rental and Energy Assistance Program.

Service Area Administration

This program provides leadership and direction for the administration of Special Needs Housing.

FY11 Recommended Changes	Expenditures	WYs
FY10 Approved	247,380	1.8
Miscellaneous adjustments, including furloughs, employee benefit changes, changes due to staff turnover, reorganizations, and other budget changes affecting more than one program	-7,350	-0.1
FY11 CE Recommended	240,030	1.7

PROGRAM SUMMARY

Program Name	FY10 Approved		FY11 Recommended	
	Expenditures	WYs	Expenditures	WYs
Rental & Energy Assistance Program	5,286,210	12.5	5,044,740	11.4
Shelter Services	5,996,690	2.8	5,468,170	2.6
Permanent Supportive Housing Services	1,747,830	9.6	2,047,960	9.3
Housing Stabilization Services	4,712,700	29.5	4,828,600	29.3
Service Area Administration	247,380	1.8	240,030	1.7
Total	17,990,810	56.2	17,629,500	54.3

